

Application No.: 09/757457

Docket No.: QP5031USNA

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Amendments to Claims

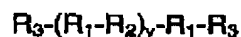
Please amend the claims as follows:

1.-11. (Cancelled)

12. (Currently amended) A filament comprising:

a synthetic melt spun polymer including a plurality of polymer chains having the structural formula:

- ~~polyamide repeating units and functional amino compounds ( $R_1$ );~~  
~~polyamide chain extender moieties ( $R_2$ ), each independently selected from the group consisting of bis-N-acyl bislactam moieties; and~~  
~~terminal groups ( $R_3$ ) comprising at least one of a hydrogen atom and a hydroxyl group;~~  
~~the polymer including chains, each independently having a chemical structure:~~



wherein

$R_1$  independently comprises polyamide repeating units and at least one of diamine and triamine units;

$R_2$  independently comprises a bis-N-acyl bislactam moiety;

$R_3$  comprises at least one of a hydrogen atom and a hydroxyl group;

and

wherein y is an integer of 1-14, wherein [(; and)]

the filament has a formic acid relative viscosity of at least about 30.

13. (Currently amended) The filament of claim 12 wherein  $R_1$  independently comprises the polyamide repeating units ( $R_1$ ), each independently, are selected from the group consisting of (i)  $[-CO(CH_2)_k-CONH-(CH_2)_mNH-]_n$ , where k and m, each independently, is an integer of 1-12, and n is an integer of 10-140, and (ii)  $[NH(CH_2)_x-CO_2]_z$  where x is an integer of 1-12 and z is an integer of 20-280.

14. (Cancelled)

*currently amended*

15. (Cancelled) The filament of claim 10 ~~12~~ wherein the ~~functionalized chain extender~~ bis-N-acyl bislactam moieties, each independently, are selected from the group consisting of bis-N-acyl bis-caprolactam moieties.

16. (currently amended) The filament of claim 15, wherein the ~~chain extender~~ bis-N-acyl bis-caprolactam moieties, each independently, are selected from the group consisting of an isophthaloyl bis-caprolactam moiety, an adipoyl bis-caprolactam

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